

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested. Claims 5-15, 20, 22-23, and 25-29 are in this application. Claims 1-4, 16-19, 21, and 24 have been cancelled. Claims 5-15, 20, 22-23, and 25-29 have been allowed. (The Examiner appears to have inadvertently omitted claim 29.)

Applicant requests the Examiner to indicate whether FIGS. 1A, 1B, and 2A-2H of the substitute formal drawings filed on October 17, 2003 (and received by the PTO on October 20, 2003) have been entered into the application. In a supplemental paper sent by the Examiner on September 20, 2004, the Examiner indicated that the drawings submitted on October 3, 2003 had been accepted. Applicant, however, has no record of any drawings being submitted on October 3, 2003. As a result, applicant requests clarification.

The Examiner objected to the disclosure because the specification does not contain all of the required parts of a utility application. Applicant assumes the Examiner is referring to the Background of the Invention and the Brief Summary of the Invention sections. Applicant, however, has been unable to find any citation which indicates that these two sections are required. Applicant notes that, unlike the terms "must" and "shall" which require compliance, the term "should" does not require compliance. Thus, since applicant has been unable to find any citation which requires the inclusion of these two sections, applicant has elected to omit them.

The Examiner rejected claims 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Daly et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,236,087 B1). As noted above, claims 16-19 have been cancelled.

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Thus, for the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that all of the claims are in a condition for allowance. Therefore, the Examiner's early re-examination and reconsideration are respectively requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



Mark C. Pickering
Registration No. 36,239
Attorney for Assignee

P.O. Box 300
Petaluma, CA 94953-0300
Telephone: (707) 762-5500
Facsimile: (707) 762-5504
Customer No. 33402